

**REMARKS**


Claims 32-55 are pending in the application with claims 53 and 55 amended herein and claims 56 and 57 cancelled herein. The present amendment is submitted under 37 CFR 1.116(b) with the intention of presenting claims in a better form for consideration on a pending appeal. Applicant filed an Appeal Brief as a separate paper concurrent with the present amendment. Applicant notes that the rejection of claims 56 and 57 was first presented in the Office Action finally rejecting such claims. Applicant could not have earlier cancelled such claims.

The amended, dependent claims 53 and 55 now reflect a general concept previously presented in claim 50, but without some of the narrow limitations of claim 50 such as the numerical limitation. In view of the Office's reasoning in the Office Action, Applicants believe that amended claims 53 and 55 now set forth patentable subject matter. The Office's reasoning was not earlier presented in the same manner, so the Applicants were not previously motivated to amend claims 53 and 55. Applicants believe that consideration of amended claims 53 and 55 by the Office will benefit the appeal process by simplifying points of patentability asserted by the Applicants.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Application Serial No. .... 09/333,564  
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 Assignee..... Honeywell International Inc.  
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 Examiner ..... C. Juska  
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 Title: Compliant Fibrous Thermal Interface

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE IN AMENDMENT  
FILED AS A SEPARATE PAPER CONCURRENT TO  
AN APPEAL BRIEF

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**In the Claims**

The claims have been amended as follows. Underlines indicate insertions and ~~strikeouts~~ indicate deletions.

53. (amended) The interface of claim 35 wherein the first surface opposes the third surface and defines another outermost surface of the thermally conductive composite ~~except for fiber tips, if any, that terminate elevationally below the support material,~~ an average length of the fibers being greater than an average thickness from the first surface to the third surface along an average direction of the fiber lengths.

55. (amended) The method of claim 48 wherein the first surface opposes the third surface and defines another outermost surface of the thermally conductive composite ~~except for fiber tips, if any, that terminate elevationally below the support material,~~ an average length of the fibers being greater than an average thickness from the first surface to the third surface along an average direction of the fiber lengths.

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